

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

It is difficult for a conventional image forming apparatus to append additional information to image information so as not to deteriorate the image quality
5 and to decode the additional information more reliably.

In this invention, since an appending method is determined based on the print density value detected by a printer engine to control switching of the appending method and an add-on pattern, an optimal add-on pattern
10 can be appended by an optimal method.

0897032-070301